As previously communicated, on February 9, 2017 the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in Decision 17-02-010, approved an all-services overlay as the relief method for the 916 NPA. The 916 NPA area includes small portions of El Dorado, Solano, Sutter, and Yolo Counties and much of Placer and Sacramento Counties. The new 279 NPA will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 916 NPA.

An area code overlay allows a new area code to be assigned over the same geographic area as an existing area code, which means any customer requesting additional or new service (e.g., landline, wireless, etc.) could have a different area code for the new number. This overlay results in the need for 11-digit (1 + area code + telephone number) dialing for on every call, including calls within the same area code.

Beginning August 12, 2017:
Permissive 11-digit dialing in the 916 area code will begin on August 12, 2017. During the permissive dialing period, subscribers may dial local calls within the overlay area on either a 7-digit or 11-digit basis, but will be encouraged to dial 11-digits. After the permissive period ends, all calls must be dialed using 11-digits (1 + area code + telephone number).

Prior to February 10, 2018:
All telecommunications service providers (CLECs, IXCs, Wireless Carriers, and ILECs) must complete the conversion of their networks to send 11-digit signaling of the called-to party for all calls terminating in all Frontier Communications end offices, access tandems and intraLATA tandems in the existing 916 NPA.

Service providers presently utilizing a MF E-911 interconnection in the 916 NPA are strongly advised to convert to SS7. Otherwise, additional Multi Frequency Centralized Automatic Message Accounting (MF CAMA) trunks must be established for the new 279 NPA. Failure to convert to SS7 or establish new MF CAMA trunks in the new 279 NPA by February 10, 2018 may result in E-911 call completion failures.
Beginning February 10, 2018:
11-digit signaling is required for all calls terminating in all Frontier Communications end offices, access tandems, and intraLATA tandems in the existing 916 NPA. Failure to comply with the required 11-digit signaling will result in call failures.

Additional information regarding the 916/279 overlay is available on the NANPA website at http://www.nanpa.com. (See Planning Letter Number PL-502.)

A sample customer letter has been developed in English and Spanish to assist with communicating mandatory dialing time frames to end user customers. Please adjust the contact information accordingly. Notification to customers is required 30 days prior to the mandatory dialing effective date.

The 916/279 overlay will not affect existing local calling areas or rates. No existing 916 NPA numbers will be changed and all existing 916 NPA numbers will retain the existing NPA.

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